

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the present application is respectfully requested.

Claim 1 has been amended to incorporate language from allowable claim 12 into claim 1 (without the language of intervening claim 11). Claim 1 thus distinguishes over Collins whose sheath is formed of numerous parts in contrast to the claimed one piece. It is not seen how it could be considered obvious to form the relatively complex sheath of Collins in one piece.

Furthermore in the rejection of original claim 1 over Collins, it was asserted that Fig. 5 depicted a second position for the tool. However, it is submitted that Fig. 5 discloses an intermediate position of manual removal wherein the tool would supposedly be supported by the user's hand (not shown), whereas claim 1 recites that the packaging itself comprises means for supporting the tool in the first and second positions. There is no indication in Collins' that the tool could be supported by the sheath in the Fig. 5 position, i.e., it could likely fall out of the sheath if not supported by the user's hand.

Accordingly, it is submitted that claim 1 distinguishes patentably over Collins.

Claims 3, 10 and 11 have been amended to overcome the alleged indefiniteness thereof.

Allowable claim 3 has been rewritten in independent form as new claim 13. New dependent claims 14 and 15 correspond to original claims 4 and 5, respectively.

The incorporation by reference of the content of the foreign priority application has been deleted to overcome the objection raised in section no. 1 of the Official action.

Respectfully submitted,

BURNS, DOANE, SWECKER & MATHIS, L.L.P.

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By:

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Alan E. Kopecki', written over a horizontal line.

Alan E. Kopecki
Registration No. 25,813

P.O. Box 1404
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1404
(703) 836-6620